

## **PUBLIC NOTICE**

Pursuant to 42 CFR 447.205, the Georgia Department of Community Health, Division of Medical Assistance, is required to give public notice of any significant proposed changes in its methods and standards for setting payment rates for services.

### **TARGETED CASE MANAGEMENT (TCM) FOR CHILDREN AT RISK; ADULTS WITH AIDS; PERINATAL; AND EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES**

Effective for services provided on and after July 1, 2008 and subject to approval by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), the Department is proposing to modify the payment method for TCM services as follows:

#### **1) Payment:**

- a) TCM providers are paid on a unit-of-service basis where a unit is equivalent to 15 minutes.
- b) Clinicians providing TCM services will be grouped into one of three bands, based on their levels of experience, education, and credentialing. Depending on the clinician band, the department will pay a different rate for each unit of service provided. To set the band-specific unit rate, the department will utilize the 2007 Bureau of Labor Statistics' annual salary surveys to determine an average salary for each clinician band and will add fringe benefits and administrative costs to determine total annual costs. The total annual cost will be converted to a cost for each 15 minutes of productive time.
- c) Payment for TCM services under the state plan does not duplicate payments made to public agencies or private entities under other program authorities for this same purpose. Close coordination will occur with the member's Care Management Organization (CMO), for members enrolled with a CMO, and their Primary Care Physician to assure no duplication of case management of medical services that are managed by the CMO.

#### **2. Limitations:**

TCM does not include the following:

- a) Case management activities that are an integral component of another covered Medicaid service;
- b) The direct delivery of an underlying medical, educational, social, or other service to which an eligible individual has been referred.
- c) Activities integral to the administration of foster care programs;
- d) Activities, for which a child may be eligible, that are integral to the administration of another non-medical program, except for case management that is included in an individualized education program or individualized family service plan consistent with section 1903© of the Social Security Act.

The purpose of these changes is to reflect recent guidance from CMS regarding federal TCM compliance. These changes are estimated to be budget neutral. This change is contingent on approval of available federal financial participation by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. A summary of proposed rate methodology may be obtained by written request to the Department of Community Health, 2 Peachtree Street, N.W., Atlanta, Georgia 30303.

This public notice is available for review at each county Department of Family and Children Services office. An opportunity for public comment will be held on **June 23, 2008**, at 1 p.m., at the Department of Community Health, 2 Peachtree Street, N.W., 5th Floor Board Room, Atlanta, Georgia 30303. Individuals who are disabled and need assistance to participate during this meeting should call (404) 656-4479. Citizens wishing to comment in writing on any of the proposed changes should do so on or before **June 23, 2008**, to the Board of Community Health, Post Office Box 38406, Atlanta, Georgia 30334.

Comments submitted will be available for review by the public at the Department of Community Health, Monday – Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., in Room 4074, 2 Peachtree Street, N.W., Atlanta, Georgia 30303.

Comments will be summarized and provided to the Board of Community Health prior to the **July 10, 2008** Board meeting. The Board will vote on the proposed changes after comments have been received. The July Board meeting will be held at 10:30 a.m. at the Department of Community Health (2 Peachtree Street, N.W., Atlanta, Georgia 30303) in the 5th Floor Board Room.

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THIS 12th DAY OF JUNE, 2008**  
**Rhonda M. Medows, M.D., Commissioner**